

February 16, 2010

**TO:** City Council and Board of Education

**FROM:** City Manager and Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** HIGHLIGHTS OF 2009 CITY/PUSD PARTNERSHIP

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This report is presented for information only.

**BACKGROUND:**

The City of Pasadena and the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) continue to expand partnership in a number of areas. Working on projects which are mutually beneficial deepens the partnership between the two agencies and provides the impetus to explore other areas where joint venturing is possible. Listed below are some of the major accomplishments during 2009:

***Opening of Facilities for Community Use***

- Wilson Middle School Tennis Courts ~ On February 2, 2009, PUSD and the City of Pasadena finalized the agreement regarding public access for the use of the newly renovated Wilson Tennis Courts. The improvements, valued at \$368,000, were funded by a private donor. The City agreed to open and close the courts each weekend day during the school year and also on weekdays as well during the summer months when school custodial staff are not present. The opening of the courts has been a very successful program with virtually no complaints from residents.
- Linda Vista Park ~ In August 2009, the lease agreement for the use of the Linda Vista Playground as a City park was renewed until August 2010. Portions of the Linda Vista campus, formerly declared surplus, have been leased to the All Saints Children's Center. The City went through the formal process of applying for and receiving a conditional use permit for the use of the play area as a City park. The

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park is well used and was the location of a neighborhood celebration on October 2, 2009. An extended lease with PUSD is still pending a decision regarding the final disposition of the property.

- Muir High School and Pasadena High School Tracks ~ At the December 12, 2009 School Board Facilities and Capital Projects Subcommittee meeting, members approved the opening of the new tracks associated with the artificial turfs at Pasadena High School and Muir High School for public access from 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. on a trial basis. This pilot program will be evaluated by both staffs after June 30, 2010 and a decision will be made whether or not to continue public access. The success of the program depends on adherence to the posted conditions of use by those using the facility. Public awareness of the special conditions required for use of the artificial turfs is currently underway.

### ***Internship Program***

Fifteen PUSD students representing four local high schools were selected for an eight week paid summer internship program through an educational collaboration between the City, PUSD and Pasadena City College (PCC), which was developed through the City/Schools partnership program. The summer program was supported by the PCC College Career Technical Education (CTE) Collaborative grant and the City and PUSD as part of the Career Pathways initiative. Professional City staff from Water & Power, Public Works and the Human Services and Recreation Departments mentored students working in their departments to gain hands-on training and experience in a real world work environment while learning about a range of City services and potential careers. Most students experienced at least two departments within the eight week timeframe. Many of the students did not want to leave their current assignment to rotate into the next department after four weeks because they felt such a strong connection to the department they were currently serving. All fifteen interns completed the program and expressed their appreciation of the experience to the City at the September 13, 2009 City Council meeting.

In addition to the Summer Internship Program, the Pasadena Police Department also conducted an Internship Program during the spring and fall semesters. Participating students from Pasadena high schools, were chosen based upon a competitive selection process which included an essay and an interview. Interns worked in the Records Section and Community Services Division, which provided opportunities for direct contact with the public. Additionally, they participated in weekly ride-along with officers to gain a first hand look at the day to day activities of officers.

The internships gave the students an opportunity to connect what they learned in school with real world situations. Many of the interns from the last year's program indicated that they want to pursue a career in law enforcement. They also received two college credits for their efforts. The fall 2009 interns and future interns will be awarded a \$200 scholarship for college upon successful completion of the program.

### ***Truancy Program***

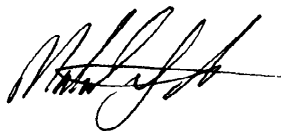
Members of the City Prosecutor's staff have helped develop PUSD's Truancy Program from a two campus pilot last school year to a comprehensive District-wide program for the 2009/2010 school year. Currently six schools have scheduled parent meetings and invited City staff to explain the consequences of truancy and the steps required by the Education Code to intervene and reduce tardiness and truancy or failing that, prosecution of the students through the juvenile court justice system. Those schools include Rose City, Muir, Pasadena High School, Marshall and Jackson Elementary School.

In addition to attending the parent meetings, City Prosecutor's staff also attends regularly the Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) hearings. Before the pilot program started in the 2008/2009 school year, PUSD was not conducting SARB hearings. This joint program has re-energized many functions that encourage students to stay in school and fight truancy. During the SARB hearings, students and their parents come to the Police Station for a final intervention before a referral to the District Attorney for juvenile filings. Following up on student attendance is a priority for PUSD schools. City and PUSD staffs will continue to make the Truancy Program a high priority in their ongoing joint projects.

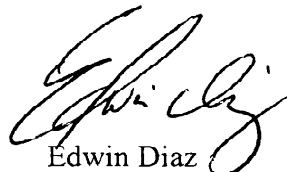
### ***Pasadena Water & Power Cost Saving Rebates to PUSD***

Pasadena Water & Power and PUSD have shared numerous joint projects focusing on energy savings and water conservation. The most significant accomplishment during the previous year was the retrofitting of schools with lighting and mechanical upgrades to save energy. Phase 1 has now been completed which will save the District approximately 3.7 million kilowatt hours annually and reduce PUSD's electric bills by approximately \$500,000 annually. The facilities included in Phase I are: Field Elementary School, Hamilton Elementary School, Muir High School, Longfellow Elementary School, Marshall Fundamental School, Norma Coombs School, Pasadena High School, Washington Elementary School, Washington Middle School, Willard Elementary School, Wilson Middle School and the District Service Center. PUSD will receive most of the funding from these rebates in calendar 2010. In addition to these savings, Pasadena Water & Power is also working the PUSD to reduce its water consumption and conform to the Pasadena Municipal Code (PMC) 13.10 which outlines the appropriate days and times for watering. PWP staff will continue to assist PUSD with stimulus grant funding applications.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Beck  
CITY MANAGER



Edwin Diaz  
SUPERINTENDENT